

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]
SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 755

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
2012

5566S.03T

AN ACT

To amend chapter 574, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to crimes involving institutions, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 574, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new
2 section, to be known as section 574.035, to read as follows:

574.035. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "House of Worship Protection Act".

3 2. For purposes of this section, "house of worship" means any
4 church, synagogue, mosque, other building or structure, or public or
5 private place used for religious worship, religious instruction, or other
6 religious purpose.

7 3. A person commits the crime of disrupting a house of worship
8 if such person:

9 (1) Intentionally and unreasonably disturbs, interrupts, or
10 disquiets any house of worship by using profane discourse, rude or
11 indecent behavior, or making noise either within the house of worship
12 or so near it as to disturb the order and solemnity of the worship
13 services; or

14 (2) Intentionally injures, intimidates, or interferes with or
15 attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with any person lawfully
16 exercising the right of religious freedom in or outside of a house of
17 worship or seeking access to a house of worship, whether by force,
18 threat, or physical obstruction.

19 4. Disrupting a house of worship is a class B misdemeanor. Any

20 **second offense is a class A misdemeanor. Any third or subsequent**
21 **offense is a class D felony.**

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